



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release UPON RECEIPT

COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS OF FISHERY PRODUCTS AS OF DECEMBER 15, 1941

Cold storage holdings of frozen domestic and imported fishery products in the United States amounted to 117,273,000 pounds on December 15, 1941, according to summaries released today by the Division of Fishery Industries, Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior, based on statistics furnished by the Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture.

When compared with the (revised) total of 115,432,000 pounds in cold storage on November 15, this represents an increase of 1,841,000 pounds, or 2 percent. It also indicates an increase of 17,185,000 pounds, or 17 percent, over the December 15, 1940, figure of 100,088,000 pounds, and likewise an increase amounting to 25,709,000 pounds, or 28 percent, over the five-year average of 91,564,000 pounds at this date.

The quantity of fish frozen during the month ended December 15, 1941, amounted to 21,372,000 pounds, which is 5,056,500 pounds, or 31 percent, more than the production during the same period a year ago; and 4,398,000 pounds, or 26 percent, above the five-year average for this period of 16,974,000 pounds.

Heaviest holdings by species show halibut in the lead with 11,164,000 pounds, followed by whiting (10,478,000 pounds); haddock fillets (9,017,000 pounds); mackerel, except Spanish (7,543,000 pounds); pollock fillets (5,147,000 pounds); and rosefish fillets (4,613,000 pounds).

Among frozen shellfish, totaling 13,509,000 pounds, shrimp (9,569,000 pounds) predominated, followed by scallops with 1,432,600 pounds. Squid, with 776,500 pounds, was in third place. Three items--halibut, whiting, and haddock fillets--accounted for 38 percent of the total frozen fishery products held in domestic public freezers on December 15.

Greatest holdings by sections show New England leading with 30,423,000 pounds; the Middle Atlantic area (23,289,000 pounds) in second place; followed by the Pacific section with 22,930,000 pounds; and the North Central East region (19,789,000 pounds).

Other items listed show 10,437,000 pounds of cured herring, and 6,935,000 pounds of mild-cured salmon, on hand as of December 15, 1941.

Included also is a note stating that the Dominion of Canada report shows that the following species and amounts of fresh frozen fish were on hand as of December 1, 1941; cod fillets—2,177,000 pounds; salmon—8,321,000 pounds; sea herring—6,344,000 pounds; mackerel—1,104,000 pounds; halibut—5,629,000 pounds; whitefish—875,800 pounds; all other varieties, 7,916,000 pounds.